



COMITÊ BRASILEIRO DE DEFENSORAS E DEFENSORES DE DIREITOS HUMANOS

The 34 organizations, from urban and rural areas, which compose the Brazilian Committee of Human Rights Defenders (CBDDH), express their concern and come to the public to denounce the threats and intimidation suffered by the Commission of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Brazilian authorities, indigenous leaders, human rights defenders and representatives of civil society organizations, on Thursday, November 8th, 2018, in Santarém (a city at the confluence of rivers Tapajós and Amazon in the Northern Brazilian state of Pará).

Even with police protection, the Commission was followed to the indigenous territory of the Açaizal, located in the Santarém Plateau, by two trucks which were transporting known rural soybean oligarchs' thugs in the region. Upon arrival to the territory, the occupants of the trucks insisted on participating in the meeting, scheduled only for indigenous leaders. They made violent racist speeches against those present and tried to identify the marks of vehicles that took the participants of the meeting to the territory, in a clear attitude of intimidation. Only after being questioned by the police they left the place.

The organizations of the Committee repudiate these attitudes, as well as the violence against the indigenous people of the lower Tapajós territory and throughout the country, considering the escalation of violence against these populations in recent years and that only last Tuesday (November 6th) two were killed: the murder of the indigenous leader Reinaldo Silva Pataxó, shot dead in the village Catarina Caramuru Paraguassú, in Pau Brazil (BA), and the attack on Donecildo Agueiro, Avá-Guarani, of Tekoha Tatury territory, in Guaraí (PR).

We also demand that the Brazilian State guarantee security conditions so that all the agendas planned for the official visit of the IACHR to Brazil, which ends on November 12th, will occur without further incident. We consider it extremely important that, at a time of increasing violence against human rights defenders, international organizations can fulfill their role of investigating the innumerable rights violations that occur in the country.

We will not shut up!

Brasília, november 8, 2018.

Brazilian Committee of Human Rights Defenders (CBDDH)

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